

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

REENTRY COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

December 4, 2019

Present: Reentry Commission (RC)

Tim Hansen, Program Director at the Hawai'i County Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, Co-Chair, Toni Bissen, Executive Director, Pu'a Foundation, Co-Chair, Wendell Murakawa, Department of Public Safety (PSD) Division Administrator for Intake Service Centers (ret.), Noriko Namiki, Chief Executive Office for the Young Women Christian Association (YWCA) and William Bagasol, Deputy Public Defender of the Office of the Public Defender, Hawai'i;

Jodie Maesaka-Hirata, Deputy Director for Corrections (DEP-C) [stand-in for PSD Director Espinda].

Attendees: Monica Lortz, Juliet Sadama-Uemura, Garret Takahashi, Shaye Kamada, Leanne Gillespie and Heather Kimura - Reentry Coordination Office (RCO);

Edmund (Fred) Hyun, Board Chairman of the Hawai'i Paroling Authority (HPA); Lisa Itomura, Deputy Attorney General Hawai'i, for Public Safety, Hawaiian Home Lands and Housing Division (PSHHD); Maile Kanemaru, Executive Director of Weed and Seed Honolulu and former member of the initial, Reentry Commission and Craig Iha, Supervising Deputy Attorney General Hawai'i, for PSHHD;

Correctional System Oversight Commission (CSOC) – Ted Sakai, Former Director of the Department of Public Safety (PSD) Hawai'i, Mark Patterson, Hawai'i Youth Corrections Facility Administrator, Honorable Judge Ronald Ibarra (Ret.), Honorable Judge Michael Town (Ret.) and Martha Torney, Former Deputy Director for Administration for PSD Hawai'i.

Absent: Nolan Espinda, Director of Public Safety, a non-voting, ex-officio member of the Commission;

Reentry Commission - Kimmy Taketa, a private citizen appointed by the Governor and Gary Yabuta, Executive Director of the Hawai'i High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) [and Former Maui County Chief of Police], Nettie Arias and Tani Dydasco – Restitution and Victim Services Unit/RCO

Agenda Item	Person Responsible	Discussion	Recommendation/Actions/Conclusions
Opening of Meeting	Tim Hansen Co-Chair	Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting called to order at 9:40am; • Absent members are recognized and noted; • Members from both Commissions are recognized and each gave a brief description of themselves;
		Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attorney General Office (AG) – on standby for any questions is noted;
Approval of Minutes		Approval of Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No changes made; • Motion to approve minutes from previous meeting (October 18th) is made, seconded and approved;
Director's Report	Jodie Maesaka-Hirata, Dep-C	Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expansion of Community Correctional Centers statewide, remains a, work in progress; • PSD is currently waiting on the approval to their application to purchase equipment to connect with City and County offices to issue State IDs; • PSD continues to work with Department of Transportation (DOT) to finalize a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), to include the issuance of IDs <u>with a gold star</u>, in light of new REAL ID ACT regulations; • Upon acquisition of equipment, pilot project for the issuance of IDs will begin initially at the Halawa Correctional Facility (HCF), where

			<p>the majority of inmates are incarcerated and where the reentry process really begins;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Explained that future plans include expanding services to the correctional facilities Statewide;• Explained the project at HCF will focus first on the max out population or those inmates transitioning elsewhere;• Biggest concern raised has been with the Social Security Administration (SSA); PSD hope is that Corrections System Oversight Commission (CSOC) can assist in, “paving the way” towards brokering an agreement with PSD;• Explained that previously and in certain counties, SSA processed applications, allowing designated facilities to provide medical documentation <u>from the institution’s Health Care Unit’s medical file</u> as proof of identity for inmates still incarcerated;• Further explained that with the implementation of the REAL ID ACT, SSA has since terminated this practice altogether (although it is still allowed for private citizens using an outside, private medical practitioner);• SSA’s “sticking point” (in signing an agreement with PSD) is how PSD
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	<p>Tim Hansen, Co-Chair</p> <p>Jodie Maesaka- Hirata, Dep-C</p>		<p>stores its documents to confirm an inmate's true identity (this has been explained on numerous occasions); it is the Hawai'i Criminal Justice Data Center (HCJDC), that is administratively under the Attorney General's Office, and not PSD who is the assigned, "keeper of records" and are the ones who verify an inmate's true identity); this arrangement leaves PSD to acquire the approval of the Attorney General's Office to allow the SSA to view the records kept at HCJDC;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted that the RCommission has discussed this issue previously in several prior meetings and each time, concerns were raised if these issues would be addressed/resolved in time for PSD to submit their Annual report; • <u>Question</u>: Has this information been added to the Annual Report for the Legislature and has it been posted on the Public Safety (PSD) website? • <u>Response</u>: Yes, the PSD Annual Report for 2020 is available online at the PSD website; • Explained the process to purchase the equipment for the ID process, has taken a considerable amount of time, due in part to existing statutes and required procurement rules;
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<p>Reentry Commission Strategic Plan</p>	<p>Tim Hansen, Co-Chair</p> <p>Toni Bissen, Co-Chair</p> <p>Tim Hansen, Co-Chair</p> <p>Toni Bissen, Co-Chair</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RCommission member, Wendell (Murakawa) is identified with helping to push the RCommission towards completing its Strategic Plan; • Explained that the Plan represented an opportunity to work with the community and previously established, public partnerships; • Acknowledged Bob Ingres, who used to head the Hawai'i Alliance, Community-Based Economic Development and who volunteered his services and use of his interns to draft and provide guidance of the RC Strategic Plan and its role in working with PSD; • Legislative authority was also taken into consideration to identify the RCommission's defined purpose and role in moving PSD services for reentry forward; • Environmental scans were identified to see what was happening legislatively and societally regarding reentry; to view the challenges and next steps, roles and responsibilities of the RCommission membership and PSD staff; • The RCommission membership agreed to a one-page overview to hand over to incoming Commission – identifying targets, baseline progress thresholds and outstanding projects;
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	<p>Jodie Maesaka- Hirata, Dep-C</p> <p>Tim Hansen, Co-Chair</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explained that the Correctional System Oversight Commission (CSOC) will have a lot of responsibilities but that the exiting RCommission, is willing to help in the transition; • Noted Act 179 instructed the RComission to generally focus on the facilities, educational and treatment programs, rehabilitating services, work furloughs, HPA, parolees and the reentry system; • Referencing #4 in ACT 179, work furlough, reiterated that PSD viewpoint is that furlough in general, is a program which afford inmates opportunities to re-familiarize and reunify with their families, and community; • One focus for the RCommission surrounded the RCO staff, to provide support & avenues for training, but relayed that plans didn't move as fast as would've hoped; • Explained aimed at getting the RCO staff trained on and focused with increasing their support around their role to help individuals exiting the facilities; • Reiterated that regardless of position, whether it's a correctional officer, secretary, warden, etc., RCommission wanted all PSD staff
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			<p>to realize that reentry should be focused on helping to address the trauma, mental health issues of inmates, to better that person and help them ready themselves towards transforming into productive, permanent members of society upon release;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defined one of the ways to do so would be to educate and encourage the community through consortiums, both on Oahu and the other islands, with a focus around housing and employment opportunities; • Mention made of the first (and what hoped to be annual), statewide Returning Home Conference, hosted in Hilo last year; also mentioned future plans for Kauai to host the next statewide conference in 2020; • RCommission recommended that the focus should be around reentry and the important roles the community holds in supporting exiting offenders; • Explained that the RCommission's Strategic Plan also identified the importance of returning to Hawai'i, all the out-of-state inmates currently housed on the Mainland; • Explained to the new Commission that since it was going through the process of creating a Strategic Plan
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			at the same the time the PSD/RCO Staff was, they might see possible overlaps in goals occurring;
	Jodie Maesaka-Hirata, Dep-C		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explained that PSD also wanted to ensure that it could fulfill the strategies mentioned in the RCommission’s plan and ensure that the identified paths of both plans didn’t conflict with each other; • Relayed that the RCO was able to gather a lot of data in anticipation of the CSOC coming on board and said that the RCO and PSD will present changes that have been made and share the data they gathered to date at the appropriate time;
Reentry Office	Monica Lortz, CPDO	Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2007, Legislature established a comprehensive, offender reentry system, and administratively assigned it to the Intake Service Centers (ISC), statewide; • In 2011 and as a response to ACT 8, PSD made efforts to implement a comprehensive reentry strategic plan; • In 2012, the Legislature, reassigned the reentry duties from the ISCs to a free-standing unit, under the Deputy Director for Corrections; • In 2015, PSD created the, Reentry Coordination Office (RCO) to work collaboratively with the RC, HPA and

			<p>various community service providers to establish and provide a reentry system, using evidence-based tools to standardize existing services, such as the furlough programs, statewide;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Explained that, “Phase 1” of the RCO Strategic Plan is to proceed with the notion that reentry, “begins upon admission into a correctional facility”; Staff thereby and using the newly created, “Reentry Program Plan Evaluation Form” would identify gaps in an inmate’s programming;• The evaluation form would also provide an opportunity for staff to regularly interact with their population, to better service and address their needs while also reviewing their program plan, to keep it relevant and updated;• This, “addressing of needs” is aimed to provide a continuum of care, through all stages of incarceration, including parole and release back into the community;• Phase 2, would address the issues concerning the management and monitoring of offenders – determining their risk and needs then partnering with community service providers and facility staff to
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			<p>effectively address those risks and needs as a means of avoiding returning to prison;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnerships would be formed to assist staff in helping inmates before they're released – such as the McKinley H.S. Work Development Certificate Program which provides inmates, after completing assigned courses, a certificate as proof of experience, even if they don't have formal training on the particular job skill (e.g: cutting other inmate's hair, fixing facility vehicles or cooking in the kitchens); • Explained RCO is also working with the reinvented, Correctional Industries (C.I.) to develop jobs that pay living wages (e.g.: Commercial Driver's License (CDL) and welding programs); • Phase 3 would have the RCO staff coordinating with facility staff to provide services and directions to create a smooth and sustainable transition for the inmate upon release; • The RCO, would work with partners in the community (Going Home Hawaii, Waianae Coast Comprehension Center [WCCC], etc.) to provide guidance and a
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			<p>continuum of care and additional assistance outside the walls;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Explained that Phase 4 would address key obstacles preventing a successful reentry, such as consulates that are non-responsive to requests and states requiring a state-issued picture ID of the applicant while also refusal to accept medical forms from facility-stationed health care personnel as identification documents;• Explained that PSD has already forged an agreement with the DOH-Hawai'i to provide, free-of-charge, duplicate birth certificates for inmates born in Hawai'i, giving priority to inmates nearing the end of their sentence (max outs), those lacking funds while also assisting facilities with inmates that were born out-of-state;• PSD's efforts to get an agreement signed with the DOT and the Custody Service Department of the City and County of Honolulu, who are the actual issuers of State IDs, includes the new rules of the REAL ID ACT requiring a "gold star";• RCO focus also includes retraining facility staff, to ensure all are on the, "same page" regarding the changes involving the reentry process;
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RCO has also developed a model to identify performance measures when introducing new reentry projects; staff has worked to regularly monitor key performance measures and will continue to develop and improve its current procedures on data collection;
	Jodie Maesaka-Hirata, Dep-C	Case Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explained staff have been using the skills they've learned, to address the varying needs of the population, and will be trained to use new tools such as the updated Program Matrix and Resource Guide, to develop an effective individualized, program plans for each offender; • The Resource Guide and the Program Matrix are to be viewed as a, "living" document, to be regularly updated;
Comprehensive Offender Reentry Plan – continued Victim Services and RAVS Unit	Monica Lortz, CPDO		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victim Services, although relatively new, has been working with various community service providers and other agencies to provide programs that address domestic violence for both victim and offender; • As a result of their efforts, a pilot program was started earlier this year on the Big Island, through the combined effort of facility staff and community service providers and involving both jail and prison inmates, to address the reasons

			<p>behind their behaviors, in the hopes of avoiding inmates repeating their reaction to stressful situations; with plans expand the program to be available in each facility statewide;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In addition and due to the dedicated work of the two Restitution Specialists within the Restitution and Victim Services (RAVS) Unit, while administratively under the RC, the RAVS Unit, operating under a federal grant and collaboratively with the Crime Victim Compensation Commission (CVCC), has been able to centralize the collections process to ensure that monies collected are done so regularly and dispersed to the victims of crime through the CVCC Office. • Through the efforts of the RAVS Unit and CVCC, collections have increase twofold from previous years and as a result, there are plans to recognize their combined efforts at the April 2020 Association of International Parole Authorities Conference as well as be a part of a panel presentation on victim restitution. • Reported that PSD/RCO also houses the State Automated Victim Information Notification(SAVIN) / Victim Information Notification
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			Everyday (VINElink) System which works hand-in-hand with the RAVS Unit to assist victims of crime, to respond to questions and inquiries and guide victim through the various processes of the legal system;
	Jodie Maesaka-Hirata, Dep-C		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explained that case managers, use the skills they learned while doing the LSI-R, such as motivational interviewing (MI) to diligently work to change inmate's attitudes and encourage them to internalize restitution payments as a way to pay the community forward positively; • Case managers are being taught to also change their own viewpoint, to look at restitution payments as part of the inmates attempts to reunify with their community;
Restitution while on Parole	Edmund (Fred) Hyun, Board Chrm. of HPA	Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In addition to the efforts of PSD and as a condition of parole, HPA requires parolees under their authority to pre-arrange, with their assigned parole officer, plans which address any outstanding, court-ordered restitution to be enforced until amounts are paid in full;
	Honorable Michael Towne, (ret.)	Question:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where do inmates get the funds to pay towards their court-ordered restitution?
	Jodie Maesaka-Hirata, Dep-C	Response:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collection amounts depend on statute and the date of sentencing and if an inmate has the funds

			available; Its either 10% or 25% of your earned income or “taxed” from your Commissary order and phone calls, again depending of date of sentence;
	Honorable Michael Towne, (ret.)	Question:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What about those inmates participating in furlough programs?
	Jodie Maesaka-Hirata, Dep-C	Response:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inmates participating in the furlough program are responsible for the same obligations as those still housed in “brick and mortar” facilities;
Comprehensive Offender Reentry Plan – continued	Monica Lortz, CPDO		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using a model based on the type the University of Hawai’i uses, the RCO has also introduced a structured, contract system to regulate and validate programs introduced by the RCO; A major change implemented has the RCO now retaining copies on any contract signed with the RCO; where the usual practice is for divisions to rely on the department’s Procurement Office (within the Adult Services Office or ASO) for copies;
	Jodie Maesaka-Hirata, Dep-C		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explained the reason for the RCO to create their own folders, is that the procurement process is so complicated to begin with, it doesn’t help anything, having to wait on another section to retrieve/view documents pertaining to any particular contract;

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explained that it is the hope that the incoming Commission will have some influence on the SPO Office to recommend an easement of current SPO restrictions/process, to increase community partnerships, to increase programming and to increase support services for families of inmates returning to the community; • Also stated that PSD would like to see an increase in statewide, collaboration and sharing of information, especially since the same inmate is usually known to and involved with many different agencies; • PSD would also like to establish partnerships between agencies, state and federal alike, that would lead to a more coordinated effort to help exiting inmates to succeed;
	Toni Bissen, Co-Chair	Additional Comments to new membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expressed thanks all around to staff, exiting Commission members, and AG, noting that folders containing minutes, handouts, etc, from previous meetings will be made available to incoming Commission/AG; • Announced also that minutes from previous meetings are located on the PSD website;

	Wendell Murakawa, Reentry Commission member	Closing remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Also expressed his hope that the incoming Commission will assist the department to move forward, working collaboratively with other state and federal agencies to resolve lingering issues;
	Tim Hansen, Co-Chair	Questions and Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No questions raised; • End meeting;